

CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, September 10, 2012
The Center of Clayton – Multipurpose Room C

The following members were present:

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| Ira Berkowitz | Darryl Higuchi |
| Brad Bernstein | Eric Schneider |
| Mimi Deem | Mark Stapleton |
| Laurel Harrington | |

Excused/Absent:

Ira Berkowitz
Marguerite Garrick

Also Present:

Patty DeForrest

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the July and August meetings were approved.

Addresses from the Audience: There were no addresses from the audience.

Naming of Park at Haddington Court: The park land purchased by the City at Haddington Court needs to be named. Ms. DeForrest explained how City parks have been named in the past. Some parks are named after streets, Shaw Park was named after former Mayor Charles A. Shaw, Henry Wright Park was renamed after the landscape architect who planned the DeMun neighborhood, Taylor Park was named after the school and Concordia Park, was named after Concordia Seminary. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Schneider made a motion to name the new parkland Haddington Park. Mr. Bernstein seconded the motion and all were in favor. The recommendation will be presented to the Board of Alderman (BOA) for approval.

Director's Report: Ms. DeForrest stated that the Clayton Garden Club requested a Blue Star Marker be placed in an existing landscaped area in Shaw Park. The markers honor men and women who have served in the armed forces. The Garden Club would pay for the 12x20 inch stone. Ms. DeForrest said the Commission may want to consider recommending that the stone be placed in Taylor Park because there is a memorial in the park. The group will return for a formal request in 2014.

The Clayton Century Foundation (CCF) Arts section has been working for nine months to select art for the garden at the north end of Shaw Park. The committee members were having a difficult time coming to a consensus. It was determined that St. Louis County is in the process of relocating art from Laumeier Sculpture Park which would work well for that site. The art pieces were sculpted by famous artist Ernest Trova. Ms. Bev Wagner, co-chair of the CCF Arts Committee, wrote a request for three pieces of art about women poets, which would be a good fit for the location. The City has a good chance of getting the art, which would be on a long term loan to CCF. The funds donated for the art would be used to restore, transport and install the pieces.

The Shaw Park Aquatic Center is closing this week. Usage for the season is up seventeen percent from last year. Mr. Schneider stated that there should only be four designated lap lanes when the pool is open for recreational swim. He was there several times at the end of the season when more were set up. Ms. DeForrest said that is what is supposed to take place and she will address this concern with staff. The BOA approved naming the dive tank after Mr. Wally Lundt.

The Shaw Park Tennis Center is scheduled to open on Saturday, September 22. The grand reopening will take place on Saturday, September 29 from 10 am-2 pm. The opening has been delayed due to the following issues: unexpected electrical problems; painting of the lights needed to be completed with the use of scaffolding, not just lifts; and MSD took a great deal of time approving the design. Further, St. Louis County stopped the project for a couple of days because they believed

the contractor should have a permit for land disturbance, which was later determined to not be the case.

Ms. DeForrest reported that 1,400 children are registered for youth soccer leagues. She informed the Commission that Ms. Hickox resigned and the Assistant Athletic and Facilities Supervisor position will be left vacant. Some re-organization will take place within the department.

One hundred six bushes and trees died in the parks due to the drought. Parks Superintendent, Susan Renard, is working on a replacement plan.

The Hanley House porch project and the Shaw Park Trial projects are out to bid. The architects are working on finalizing the design. The incorporation of this project into the site has been handled well and those details have been finalized. Ms. Harrington reported that the restroom building design work is progressing well. The next project that will go out to bid will be for the replacement of windows at Hanley House. It is yet to be determined if the windows will be replaced to look like the old ones or rehabbed. Historians would say rehab the windows, which would require the windows to be shipped in order to be worked on. This is the direction staff is leaning and they do not believe that the cost will be significantly more.

Ms. DeForrest reported that there is a donor who will fund the landscaping project between the ice rink and the pool. There is another donor who is willing to fund a master plan overlay for Shaw Park. The donor has been exploring opportunities for the north end of Shaw Park and likes the idea of having a water feature in that area. A decision was made to conduct a study in order to determine if a waterfall would be appropriate for the north end of the park. A firm will be hired to put together the master plan overlay. The selected firm will create renderings of potential park projects that will be used to assist with fundraising. The renderings will be on large boards and will be excellent visuals to show what types of projects could be completed in the park. Part of the overlay will include a maintenance plan. It will cost approximately \$100,000 to fund the overlay. If the north end project makes it into the master plan then a final plan will be vetted in the community. Ms. DeForrest stated that the City will hire SWT to do the master plan overlay, as it is considered an extension of their other master plan work for which they were previously selected.

The dog park supporters are working on fundraising. As soon as the funds are in place, the project will begin. MSD has approved the concept; they need one more item in order to approve the final project.

Ms. Harrington asked Ms. DeForrest if she was satisfied with the ice rink report from Jacobs. Ms. DeForrest said she is pleased and likes that the main item the report provided was one idea for usage at the ice rink. Primary usage will be an ice rink and alternative usage will be built around it for sports and events. There is a potential funder for the site design. The design phase will cost approximately \$35,000 instead of \$70,000 since the scope of the project has been simplified.

Old Business / New Business: Mr. Schneider requested that the Clayton police come to a Commission meeting to speak about crime in Clayton parks. The presentation can be very simple. Ms. DeForrest noted that there have been no violent incidents in any Clayton Parks. The only incidents she is aware of are car break-ins.

A member of the audience asked Ms. DeForrest about Artist Guild rumors that are being circulated in Clayton. Ms. DeForrest said she was unable to comment on the matter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm

Respectfully Submitted By:

Denise Ucinski